What Are Web 2.0 Tools?

Web 2.0 Tools are revolutionary new ways of creating, collaborating, editing, and sharing user-generated content online (“Web 2.0 Tools”, 2017). Technology is continuously growing and is in great demand not only for personal wants and needs but in education as well. With Web 2.0 Tools it is easier for students and teachers to share work and to communicate more efficiently.

The World Wide Web and technology has grown tremendously over the years and continues to grow each day. Every day there is something new to learn about technology and programs on the Internet. Web 2.0 tools are characterized by greater user interactivity and collaboration, more pervasive network connectivity, and enhanced communication channels.

Some of the most significant differences between Web 2.0 and Web 1.0 is the amount of collaboration among Internet users, content providers and how much input users have into the nature and scope of web content (Rouse & Haughn, 2017.). There is also the social nature of Web 2.0 that is a major difference between what used to be the WWW and what it is now. In social networking there are more community-based input, interaction, content sharing, and collaboration.

Web 2.0 Tools are becoming a major part in education. These tools help students become more creative, critical thinkers, and develop 21st century skills. Web 2.0 Tools are also helping teachers. The more technology brought into the classroom the more teachers need to understand how to use these tools and how to incorporate them into teaching. Web 2.0 Tools can be used to teach curriculum content, store data, create or edit videos, photos, and collaborate with others in the classroom as well as globally.

Web 2.0 Tools can help with collaboration, course management, productivity, and public content management (“101 Web 2.0 Teaching Tools”, 2017). A course management Web 2.0 Tool would be *Engrade*, which is a free online gradebook that allows teachers to manage their classes online, post grades, post assignments, record attendance, and post upcoming homework for parent and students to see. *Grammarly*, a productivity Web 2.0 tool allows students to check documents for any grammatical errors. A Web 2.0 Tools for collaboration is FirstClass, a personalized web page that is used as a communication hub where teachers can send messages to principals, pick up student assignments, or to have students build their own Web pages.

Web 2.0 tools are expanding every day. There are so many new ways to use technology in the classroom. Without these tools it would be hard to keep the students on track and interested. Future teachers need to learn more about these tools and how to incorporate them into the classroom.

References

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